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be seen on the way or at the end of them. A trip by rail from Tsingtau to Tsinan fu, 395 kilometers, is outlined, and there is this laconic paragraph on a matter of interest:

T'shue fu, on passports and cards being presented to Duke Kung, permission is granted to visit the temple and tomb of Confucius.

The maps and illustrations are excellent.

**L'Allemagne Contemporaine Illustrée. By P. Jousset.** 282 pp., 588

Photographic Reproductions and 22 Maps, of which eight are in colors. Librairie Larousse, Paris, 1907 (?). (Price, 18 fr.)

A popular work (folio) on Germany, with accurate descriptions of the country in its various geographical aspects. The coasts and ports are first treated, and then Berlin and its environs. The remainder of Germany is treated by its larger river basins, these chapters being preceded by a general view of the country's relief, hydrography, and other physical features. The letterpress is well written and accurate, but the crowning feature is the superb photographic illustrations which supplement the text as nothing else could do and show how valuable a feature photography is in geographical instruction. The maps are excellent and the table of contents makes it easy to find all information in the book.

**Die Geest Ostfrieslands. Geologische und Geographische Studien zur Ostfriesischen Landeskunde und zur Entwicklungsgeschichte des Emstromsystems. Von Dr. Rudolf Bielefeld.** 173 pp., 3 Maps, 4 Tables, and 2 Profiles. J. Engelhorn, Stuttgart, 1906. (Price, M. 10.)

This is number 4 of Vol. 16 of "Forschungen zur deutschen Landes- und Volkskunde." It is a first-rate geological and geographical study of East Friesland and of the development of the Ems River system, in which the author traces the glacial influence in this region, various modifications of the surface, and the physiography of the Geest area which has been profoundly influenced by climatic conditions.

**Terrestrial Magnetism and its Causes.—A Contribution Towards the Elucidation of the Problem.** By F. A. Black. xii and 226 pp., 23 Illustrations and Diagrams, 6 Appendices, and Index. Gall and Inglis, London, 1905. (Price, 6s.)

The author, as he says in his preface, is not a professional physicist. It may be said, however, that as an amateur dealing with a scientific subject of unusual complexity, he has written a worthy book that commands the respect of scientists. Leading workers in the field of terrestrial magnetism have already accorded to Mr. Black's volume the merit that it is clear and scientific in treatment and accurate in the ideas developed.

The author has nothing to say that is new to the specialist in this branch of physics, and parts of the book are quite elementary, but all the better adapted on that account for the enlightenment of a wide circle of readers. Mr. Black explains the phenomena of the magnetic earth and magnetic variation by the movement of the earth in the electrical field of the sun. He wrote before Amundsen had practically demonstrated that the north magnetic pole is not a point, but may be a large area, and Mr. Black says this concerning the problem:

We have got into the way of thinking of the magnetic pole as a definite point on the earth's sur-

face, a spot which we can stand upon. Ross has given us the actual geographical position of the American pole not only to degrees but to minutes . . . . While in a certain sense this is no doubt correct, in another sense it seems to be misleading. Even in an ordinary bar magnet the poles are of appreciable size and in comparison with the magnet they are of considerable size. If then, the earth is a magnet, what must be the size of its poles? It can scarcely be questioned that they must cover a large area.

The book may be heartily commended to that part of the public which would like to know the present state of our knowledge of terrestrial magnetism.

**Side-Lights on Astronomy and Kindred Fields of Popular Science. Essays and Addresses.** By Simon Newcomb. viii and 350 pp., Illustrations and Index. Harper & Brothers, New York, 1906.

This is in the main a collection of essays and addresses which have appeared in various magazines from 1882 to the present. For the purpose of this republication, Dr. Newcomb revised the material and brought it down to date. The chapters illustrate admirably his ability to treat in a popular way, for all intelligent readers, many of the great facts of science.

Although his topics are chiefly astronomical, he has also included discussions relating to general scientific subjects, such as the mariner's compass, geometry, the organization of scientific research, the outlook for the flying machine, and several others. In the field to which he is especially devoted, he treats the unsolved problems of astronomy, the structure and extent of the universe, the life it may support, and new problems relating to the Cosmos which the advance of science has brought to the front. He writes of the universe as an organism or a connected whole, tells how planets are weighed, makes plain to the general reader the meaning and uses of the Astronomical Ephemeris and the Nautical Almanac, describes the world's debt to astronomy, and the aspects of American astronomy, and reports what astronomers are doing.

These twenty-one papers deal with many of the best fruits of scientific research, and all is told in a style so simple and interesting that the discussions are certain to be fascinating even to those who are not much inclined to scientific reading. We may regard this book, abounding, as it does, with approved and significant information, as one of the best of the works whose purpose is the popularization of science.

**A Scientific Geography.** By Ellis W. Heaton. Book II. The British Isles, 142 pp., and 45 Maps and Diagrams. Book III. Europe. 154 pp., and 47 Maps and Diagrams. Ralph, Holland & Co., London, 1906. (Price, each, 1s. 6d.)

These are excellent little books, whose aim is, as the author says, to associate the leading facts of geography in such a way that they will not only be interestingly presented but also that some explanation of the facts will be afforded. The books are suggestive rather than exhaustive. The author insists throughout upon the use of maps and sketch maps, and he endeavours to impress facts and inter-relations by requesting the student to make or fill out maps and diagrams to illustrate the text. Thus he asks the student to fill in, on a map supplied in the book, the details necessary to complete a table dealing with the elevation, temperature, rainfall, and agriculture of the various districts of Great Britain. Such an exercise can hardly fail to bring home to the student the close inter-relations between these factors. Much stress is put upon the physical causes which lead to agricultural and industrial development. The treatment is fresh and interesting,